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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,549	02/27/2004	Chang-Ho Do	51876P595	7064
8791	7590	11/09/2005	EXAMINER	
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN			CUNNINGHAM, TERRY D	
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
SEVENTH FLOOR				2816
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030				

DATE MAILED: 11/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/788,549	DO, CHANG-HO	
	Examiner Terry D. Cunningham	Art Unit 2816	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 September 2005.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 19 September 2005 has been entered.

Summary of changes in this action

1. The indefiniteness rejection of the previous action have been overcome responsive to the amendment
2. Claims 1, 2 and 11 are now included in the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103, due to the new language reciting “two pull-up devices and a pull-down device controlled by the detection signal and a delayed detection signal”.
3. Claim 12 is now rejection as being indefinite.
4. Claims 4-10 and 12 are now rejected under art in view of the new interpretation provided below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 3, 4 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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In claims 3-4, there is no support found in the specification for “first pull-up means”, the “first pull-down means” and the “second pull-up means” in addition to the two pull-devices” and the “pull-down device” of claim 1.

In claim 12, line 10, “one pull-up device” has already been recited in line 9. It appears that “one” in line 10 should be changed to --another--.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hsieh (USPN 4,902,910). Hsieh discloses, in Fig. 8, a circuit comprising: “a power supply voltage level follower unit (4-1A)”; “a power supply voltage detection unit (4-2A)”; “a reset prevention unit (80 and 83)” having a “delay unit (80)”; “a buffer unit (202)”; “an inverter (4-2B)”; “power-up signal (POR)”; “a detection signal (4C)”; and “a delayed detection signal (4D)”, all connected and operating similarly as recited by Applicant. Reference is made to Fig. 9 which shows the corresponding operation. As seen, the “power-up signal” during times t4 through t6+td is a “pull-down signal” that is generated (i.e., pulled-down) by NAND gate 83”. NAND gate 83 is “controlled by the detection signal (4C) and a delayed detection signal (4D)” as well as signal 4F’. Thus, the language of lines 10-11 is met by Hsieh. Further, the signal POR is prevented “from transitioning during a power drop of the power supply voltage” when the drop

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has a duration less than a predetermined value. Thus, the language of lines 10-11 is further met by Hsieh.

Examiner has fully considered Applicant's remarks for the above rejection and has not found them to be persuasive. Contrary to Applicant's remarks, each of elements 81, 82 and 82 must inherently include at least one "pull-up device" and one "pull-down device", which would account for recited "two pull-up devices and a pull-down device". Further, it is seen that this circuit receives the "detection signal" at node 4C' and receives the "delayed detection signal" at node 4D'. Thus, meeting the claim recitation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsieh (USPN 4,902,910) in view of Lovett (USPN 5,889,416). The above-discussed circuit to Hsieh does not teach the express details for the NAND gate 83 of Fig. 8. The reference to Lovett discloses in Fig. 13 an improved NAND gate having the benefit of uniform slew rate. This NAND gate includes "a first pull-down means (1016)"; "a first pull-up means (1008)" and "a second pull-up means (1002)". Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to use the specific NAND gate taught in Fig. 13 of Lovett for the broad NAND gate 83 of Fig. 8 of Hsieh to obtain the expected advantage of uniform slew rate in the NAND gate.

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With respect to claim 12, the “pull-down device” and the “one pull-up device” would be 1016 and 1008, respectively. The other “pull-up device” would be 1002.

Examiner has fully considered Applicant’s remarks for the above rejection and has not found them to be persuasive. Applicant merely relies on the remarks for the 102 rejection. However, this combination shows “two pull-up devices (1002 and 1008 of Lovett) a pull-down device (1016 of Lovett) controlled by the detection signal (at node A1) and a delayed detection signal (at node A0). Thus, this combination is seen to meet the claim recitation.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Terry Cunningham whose telephone number is 571-272-1742. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Terry D. Cunningham
Primary Examiner
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